(v) The system of farming or auctioning the right to collect tolls meant that a percentage of the money realised, often as much as twenty-five per cent. or more, went to the contractor and not to the Government.

(vi) It was believed that, in some districts and municipalities, only a small proportion of the net income derived from tolls was spent on the road.

The member in conclusion recalled the promise made on a previous occasion that, when the abolition of tolls came into force in British India, Travancore would follow suit. It appeared that a Bill for the abolition of tolls introduced in the Madras Legislative Council would soon be passed into law.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Farr. This question, as you said, has been before the public and the Government for some time now. You are aware that the Madras Government are trying to introduce legislation in the Madras Legislative Council, whereby a vehicle tax is substituted for the tolls now levied. That is a question which is also under the consideration of the Government and they are taking preliminary action and are investigating this problem of substituting for tolls some other kinds of taxation which would supply the funds that this toll system now supplies for the maintenance of roads and bridges. The matter is under investigation now.

20. Some reflections and suggestions on the administration of the Judicial and Police Departments.

MR. NARAYANARU KRISHNARU (*Jenmies, Trivandrum Division, Group II*) who spoke in Malayalam, said that the terms of reference to the Law's Delays Commissioner were inadequate. The Commissioner should be empowered to examine, and record the evidence of, the litigant public. The practical working of the several branches of each and every civil court in the State should be studied very closely by the Commissioner and remedies prescribed for the difficulties experienced by the litigants from day to day.

Unregistered documents deposited in courts were often found to have been tampered with. It should therefore be made a rule that attested copies alone need ordinarily be deposited.

In the case of direct remittances to the court, the Head clerk should sign, for the party concerned, a detailed account of the remittances. That would facilitate the preparation of the decree and prevent double remittances.

In the case of *jenmam* lands, the *jenmies'* dues had priority after Government dues. No registered certificate should therefore be necessary for the auction notification for *jenmies'* dues.

The certificates issued by Vakils on receipt of fees were disappearing from courts. A small fee should be levied thereon.

If, in writing decrees, the judgments were not closely followed the costs or loss thereby incurred by the party should be realised from the clerk responsible for it or from the officer who signed the decree. In such cases, the necessary corrections should be made on comparison with the judgment-copy in court and the party should not be made to produce copy of the judgment.

Amounts due from courts should not be paid to parties without obtaining receipts from them.

Vakils should issue receipts for money obtained from clients. Vakils' accounts should be examined by Munsiffs every month and by the circuiting Judges.

In regard to *jenmam* lands, there was a tendency in certain District Courts to decide cases against precedents and Munsiffs were blindly following such decisions as authority. The practice should be stopped.

Recruitment of Judges from among practising Vakils prejudicially affected Munsiffs' prospects. The practice should be abandoned.

On making any appointment, the age of the person should be carefully ascertained without leaving the matter for later investigation.

The practice of nominating unqualified persons to the Village Panchayat Courts seriously affected the interests of the public. No discretion whatever was exercised in selecting Panchayat Court Judges. The matter should be looked into.

The pay of the constables should be appreciably enhanced. In British India and the Cochin State, the constables drew higher emoluments. Low salary was a temptation to corrupt practices. The pay of the third grade Police Inspectors should be raised to Rs. 75-125. Their travelling allowance also should be increased. Men having University qualifications should be offered better encouragement.

DEWAN'S REPLY : ലാസ്സ്ഡിലേസു കമ്മീഷണക്കു എല്ലാകോടതികളിലുംപോയിപരിശോധിച്ചു തെളിവെടുക്കുന്നതിനു അധികാരമില്ലെന്നു പറഞ്ഞു. എന്നാൽ അങ്ങിനെയല്ല. ഓരോ കോടതികളിലും പോയി, ജഡ്ജിമാരുടേയും, മുൻസീഫ്മാരുടേയും, പ്രാക്ടീസ് ചെയ്യുന്ന വക്കീലന്മാരുടേയും മാത്രമല്ല അവിടെയുള്ള പൊതുജനങ്ങളിൽ നിന്നുംകൂടി തെളിവുവാങ്ങി റിപ്പോർട്ടു സമർപ്പിക്കുന്നതിനു അദ്ദേഹത്തെ അധികാരപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ടു.

MEMBER: വക്കീലന്മാരിൽനിന്നും ജഡ്ജിമാരിൽ നിന്നും മാത്രമേ തെളിവെടുക്കുന്നുള്ളു എന്നാണ് കമ്മീഷണർ ഒർവസരത്തിൽ എന്നോടു പറഞ്ഞതു്. വക്കീലന്മാരിൽ നിന്നു മാത്രം തെളിവു വാങ്ങിയാൽ പോരാ. അവരാണ് ഈ ഗ്രഹപ്പിഴയൊക്കെ വരുത്തിവയ്ക്കുന്നതു്.

DEWAN : പൊതുജനങ്ങളേയും വരുത്തി തെളിവെടുക്കുന്നതിൻ ലാസ്സ്ഡിലേസ് കമ്മീഷണരെ അധികാരപ്പെടുത്തിയിട്ടുണ്ട്.

അടുത്തതായി പഞ്ചായത്തു കോടതിയെപ്പററി നിങ്ങൾ പറഞ്ഞു. ഓരോ സ്ഥലങ്ങളിലുമുള്ള ഉദ്യോഗസ്ഥന്മാരുടേയും ആ സ്ഥലത്തെ പേഷ്കാരുടേയും പരിചയത്തിൽ യോഗ്യന്മാരാണെന്നു തോന്നുന്നവരെയാണ് പഞ്ചായത്തു കോടതി ജഡ്ജിമാരായി നിയമിച്ചുവരുന്നതു്. ചില സ്ഥലങ്ങളിൽ വക്കീലന്മാരേയും നിയമിക്കുന്നുണ്ട്. കഴിയുന്നതും ന്യായം നടത്തുമെന്നു വിശ്വാസം തോന്നുന്ന ആളുകളെയാണ് ഇപ്പോൾ നിയമിച്ചുവരുന്നതു്. എങ്കിലും അതിനെപ്പററി കുറെക്കൂടി ശ്രദ്ധിക്കാം.

പിന്നീട് പോലീസ് കാൺസ്റ്റബിൾമാക്കു ശമ്പളം കൂട്ടികൊടുക്കണമെന്നു നിങ്ങൾ പറയുകയുണ്ടായി. ഇപ്പോൾ തന്നെ കൺസ്റ്റബിൾമാക്കു ശമ്പളക്കൂടുതൽ കൊടുത്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ആദ്യമായതു് ൻ-രൂപാകിട്ടിവന്നിരുന്നവക്കു ഫ ഫ-രൂപായാക്കുകയും, അതിനുമുകളിൽ ശമ്പളം ഉണ്ടായിരുന്നവക്കു ഓരോരൂപാവീതം കൂട്ടുകയും ചെയ്തിട്ടുണ്ട്. ഇതൊരുവലിയ ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറായതുകൊണ്ടു കുറേശെകുറേശേ മാത്രമെ ശമ്പള കൂട്ടുതൽ കൊടുക്കാൻ സാധിക്കുകയുള്ളൂ. അതു ഇപ്പോൾതന്നെ ചെയ്തിട്ടുമുണ്ട്.

MEMBER : പോലീസ് ഇൻസ്പെക്ടർമാരിൽ സത്യസന്ധന്മാരും യോഗ്യന്മാരുമായിട്ടുള്ളവരെ മജിസ്ട്രേട്ടന്മാരായി കയററംചെയ്താൽ അതു് അവക്കൊരുപകാരമായിരിക്കും.

DEWAN : ആലോചിക്കാം.

[The Law's Delays Commissioner has been authorised to examine not only the presiding officers of courts, and practising vakils but also members of the public. Appointments to the Village Panchayat Courts made in consultation with the local officers and the Dewan Peishkar concerned. The most suitable men are appointed and those who, the Government think, will dispense justice, are alone selected. Vakils are appointed in some places. More attention will be bestowed in the matter of the selection of judges. In the case of Police constables, an enhancement of pay has just been granted. The lowest pay has been raised from Rs. 9 to Rs. 11 per mensem and the pay of all grades raised by one rupee. As it is a big department, increase of pay can be granted only gradually. The suggestion to promote efficient and honest Inspectors as Magistrates will be considered.]

21. Disabilities of women in courts, lock-ups, etc.

MRS. ANNA CHANDY (*Nominated*) thanked Government, at the outset of her representation, for having nominated women representatives to the Assembly. She said that it was a matter for gratification that the sex-disabling clause in the Rules of the Assembly was abrogated during